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PTO/PCT Rec'd 11 JUN 2001

YAO-4340US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kazuo Yokoyama et al. : Art Unit:
Serial No.: 09/787,480 : Examiner:
Filed: June 11, 2001 :
For: HEAD SUPPORT MECHANISM, :
INFORMATION RECORDING/
REPRODUCING APPARATUS, AND
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING HEAD
SUPPORT MECHANISM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

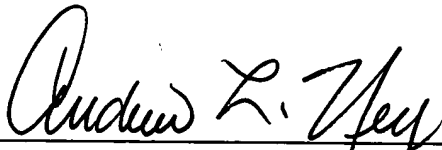
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Japanese reference 9-73746 is not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith.

Japanese publication by Yoshikazu Soeno is not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is included in the copy of the reference submitted herewith. Also, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), a brief statement of relevance of this reference may be found in the specification at page 3, line 20.

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application. No first Official Action has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No Fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew L. Ney, Reg. No. 20,300
Attorney for Applicants

Enclosures:

PTO Form 1449
(2) References

Dated: June 11, 2001

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL

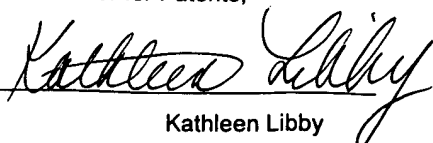
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Date of Deposit:

June 11, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Kathleen Libby